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Montana Kaimin, 1898-present

Associated Students of the University of Montana
(ASUM)

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Montana Kaimin, March 25, 2004

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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Slap happy



Mike Cohea/Montana Kaimin
Jeannie Swain (left) of the alumni team steals the puck on her way to scoring a goal during a 6-1 rout of the UM women's hockey team Tuesday at the Glacier Ice Rink. See page 6 for more Kaimin coverage of the game.

Cars traded for Griz tickets

Alisha Wyman

Montana Kaimin

The University of Montana athletics department traded almost \$58,000 worth of football and basketball tickets with car dealerships and rental car agencies this year for 36 vehicles, a benefit that 29 of the department's employees and coaches receive.

The remaining seven vehicles are rentals for employees who do not have complementary cars but use them for occasional travel.

The number of vehicles has come under criticism after the recent disclosure that the department carries a nearly \$1 million deficit.

Each dealership that donates a vehicle receives four football sea-

son tickets, four men's and four women's basketball season tickets, advertising in game programs, two parking passes, PA announcements and two "Golden Grizzly" Grizzly Scholarship Association memberships worth \$750 each.

Golden Grizzly members' seats are at the 50-yard line for football games and at the half-court line for basketball games. The GSA memberships given to car dealerships are worth a total of \$54,000.

The vehicles cost the athletics department \$58,176 in ticket revenue this year, but a significant loss of revenue came from football ticket trades because home games almost always sell out, said Chuck Maes, the assistant athletic director for the department. The football-ticket trades account for \$22,320 in

potential revenue for the department.

Athletics also swallows losses for trading parking passes because of the limited amount of spaces available for all games.

While the revenue lost is substantial, there is value in providing cars to employees, said GSA director Brian Newton.

"It's a perk for a lot of people," he said. "We're not known for super-large salaries in Montana."

A car can be what convinces some candidates to take a position with the department, Newton said.

"It might swing the deal," he said. "I think every little bit that's offered might make the difference in quality of people coming here."

See CARS, Page 8

Regents to discuss voluntary fees

Curtis Wackerle

Montana Kaimin

The Board of Regents will decide Friday if student groups at the University of Montana will be allowed to collect funding through fees that students sign up for and are placed on their tuition bills.

MontPIRG, an organization that works on public policy issues, is the only group on campus with the regents' approval to collect such a fee, known as a voluntary student fee. Every semester, MontPIRG's estimated 2,000 UM members give the group \$3.

None of the other seven campuses in the Montana University System allow student groups to raise funds through voluntary fees placed on tuition bills.

After more than a year of debate, in a special session on Saturday, Feb. 22, ASUM approved a policy by a 13-4 vote that would open up the voluntary fee process to any student group that can afford to reimburse the University for the costs of placing the fee on tuition bills. This cost is estimated to be around \$500 per tuition cycle. This ASUM-recommended policy applies only to UM.

The ASUM recommendation is now up for debate at the Board of Regents meeting Friday in Dillon. They will decide whether or not to approve ASUM's proposal, effectively expanding the voluntary fee process to include all student groups at UM.

But there are also many other ideas for the regents to consider.

Another proposal on the regents' table, drafted by Regent Richard Roehm, would cancel the

policy that allows MontPIRG to use the University to collect a voluntary fee. Under this option, no student group would be able to use students' tuition bills to raise funds.

"I am looking forward to the discussion," Board of Regents Chairman John Mercer said.

Those who oppose the collection of voluntary fees say opening the process up to other student groups would be a bad thing for the university system. It could lead to too many groups collecting fees, which would create too much of a burden on the University. Since the University would be overburdened by collecting fees for everyone, opponents say it would be unfair to go on allowing any one group to use tuition bills for fund raising.

"In a perfect world, (voluntary fees) should be open to all groups," Student Regent Christian Hur said. "But that would probably be a burden and take away from the mission of the University."

Hur said the University's job is to provide quality education for students, not collect fees for what could be partisan groups.

Others on the Board of Regents want to see the voluntary fee policy canceled because they don't want to put forth the message that the University supports the groups that it would collect funds for.

"I don't want the prospect of appearing that the university system sanctions these causes," Regent Richard Roehm said.

Roehm also said he is tired of the regents spending so much time and effort discussing volun-

See FEES, Page 8

Fraternity looks to get a start with new UM chapter

Matt Pritchard

For the Kaimin

Several University of Montana students have their eyes on starting a new fraternity on campus.

Jose Diaz, a sophomore in journalism and political science, had the idea to start Kappa Sigma last semester after his previous fraternity, Alpha Tau Omega, was removed from campus by the national organization because of dwindling enrollment.

Diaz decided he wanted to continue with another fraternity but failed to find one on campus he liked.

"I wasn't really interested in what the other fraternities had to offer," Diaz said.

He said he wanted a fraternity that was more involved with community service and with UM, so he went online to check out the goals of other national fraternities. Diaz decided on Kappa Sigma because of its principles and alumni — including Ted Turner, Bob Dole and Jimmy

Buffett.

"The reason new fraternities start is the people in the new groups feel their needs aren't being met by the other fraternities," said Cairn Lindloff, the Greek Life program adviser.

To make the fraternity unique, Diaz proposed for Kappa Sigma to help the Campus Escort Service in patrolling campus Wednesdays through Sundays.

Another reason Diaz gave for wanting to start the Kappa Sigma fraternity involved attempting to erase all the negative stereotypes associated with fraternities, Diaz said.

"On this campus, being Greek is almost like a dirty word," he said.

The prospect of a new fraternity encouraged Matt Ferguson, a freshman in history, to pledge with Kappa Sigma — even

though UM hasn't officially recognized it yet. He said he looked at all the other fraternities on campus and didn't like what they had to offer.

Ferguson also said the opportunity to start something new is intriguing. He wants to be a Founding Father, which is the title given to founding members of campus fraternities.

Jim Bennett, a junior in history, also pledged to Kappa Sigma. He said Diaz, who has been his friend for two-and-a-half years, brought up the idea when they were watching the movie "Old School." Bennett said he wanted to join in

order to meet new people and said it's a great opportunity to establish something from the ground up.

To create a new fraternity on campus, the national fraternity must first give its approval. Kappa Sigma required 15 pledg-



Diaz

‘Bill of rights’ actually limits professors’ freedoms

Last Wednesday ASUM passed perhaps its most unimportant and wasteful piece of legislation yet this year: a student “bill of rights” attempting to guarantee that students of differing viewpoints will not feel intimidated by professors who differ in their opinions.

The idea behind the resolution is a noble one. But when one reads the resolution closely — and notices that it’s a page straight out of a conservative organization’s play book — a different story emerges.

After it was first noted that the original resolution, originally debated in the fall of 2003, was highly copied from a right-wing organization, red flags started to go up. Now that it has finally passed student vote — with several sections intact from the organization’s original texts — the faculty will discuss it.

Few of us can think of times when a classroom environment was so oppressive that all alternative forms of debate were angrily and punitively dismissed.

However, one can conjure several situations in which a sheltered student may be uncomfortable with a professor because of that teacher’s particular differing viewpoints, but rarely does that carry over into an actual loss of academic quality. And if it does, channels are already in place for the oppressed student.

Conservatives whine about liberal professors on this campus and others, yet they can not produce concrete examples as to how they’re being discriminated against. Their work is being graded just as fairly as anyone else’s, especially if the class is graded on Scantron tests. And just because a professor doesn’t want to listen to them nit-pick or argue point after point, they should not be forced to recognize an allotted speaking time.

Classrooms are not always rooms of debate. If a professor is lecturing, are we to expect that he or she stop halfway through the time period and turn over the discussion to an untought, immature student to explain the “other side” of the story? Who’s teaching the class here? Or does the conservative student think they already know more than somebody they’re paying to learn from?

The number of opinions are so numerous that it would be impossible to include them all in any sort of academic setting. Conservatives, who are pushing for this legislation, however, seem to believe that most of their issues can be cut down to black and white. To them, every liberal thing a liberal professor says should be followed up with the conservative viewpoint, as well.

Unfortunately it’s not that easy.

Academic freedom means that just as students have the choice to believe in whatever political system they choose, professors have the freedom to make their own political choices and discuss them as they see fit in relation to their academic work.

By placing guidelines and limitations on professors, we run the danger of measuring the diversity of our faculty by purely political standards. We risk having to put little (R)s and (D)s next to our professors’ names in the catalog, just to make sure that we have an equal balance.

This “bill of rights” will reduce all ideas of knowledge to personal opinion, thereby making it impossible to get an education.

So what if you go to a professor’s office and see a political cartoon bashing George W. Bush? That’s the professor’s choice — freedom — to show how he or she feels about politics.

Don’t like it? Go to Bob Jones University. But until then, universities are going to be grounds for professors to teach what they want, how they want it. That’s why students choose to go to them. For many professors, their political opinions are part of what they teach.

It is unfair to place a legislative damper on our faculty’s opinions. In fact, it’s completely contradictory to the ideals of freedom. Students do not go to colleges to tell their teachers how to teach. They go to learn.

University of Montana faculty, when presented this resolution for review, should ignore it like the childish and useless piece of legislation it is.

Christopher Rodkey, editor

The Montana Kaimin welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters are 300 words and must include your name, phone number, year in school and major.

Guest columns are 700 words.

E-mail all submissions to letters@kaimin.org

Like father like son, bad policy

Like my daddy, I attended Andover Prep School and Yale University. I joined the National Guard to protect my daddy’s name. I became a pilot like my daddy. I went into the oil business like my daddy. Because my daddy liked baseball, I bought the Texas Rangers. My daddy helped me get at least six jobs. My 1999 autobiography was titled “A Charge to Keep.”

I ran against Ann Richards for governor of Texas because she ridiculed my daddy. I ran against Clinton-Gore because they defeated my daddy in 1992. I picked Dick Cheney for vice president because he worked in my daddy’s administration. One of my motives for invading Iraq was because Saddam tried to assassinate my daddy.

Because my aristocratic daddy wouldn’t want me to, I will not reduce taxes for 99 percent of Americans by increasing taxes for the wealthiest 1 percent. Although 10s of millions of Americans do not own one acre of land, my daddy and I like my 1,600-acre ranch. My daddy and I aren’t sure global warming is happening, even though all scientists are certain each of the more than 40,000 airports, 1 billion vehicles and 6 billion people on Earth contribute to global warming gasses 365 days a year.

My daddy and I want to increase defense spending even though: 1) the more-than-100 warheads on one invulnerable submarine could destroy any country on Earth when my daddy was vice president, 2) the Cold War ended 10 years ago, 3) the U.S. defense budget is now five times larger than the Russian defense budget, and 4) essentially every country in Western Europe is allied with the United States.

Word for word, the above may be the best biographical sketch of our current president. Does George W. Bush have the requisite maturity, intellect and vision to lead the country for another four years?

Mark Boyd
Las Vegas, Nev.

Buffalo article doesn’t explain facts

The Environmental Action Community would like to voice its disappointment with the article titled “Sick bison to be slaughtered,” printed in the March 17 Kaimin. You would think our school reporters, who live so close to this incredibly powerful and highly covered issue, would know better than to publish this load of lies. The animals being slaughtered are not sick. They tested positive for an antibody to brucellosis. Antibodies are a form of disease resistance and are no more a sign of sickness than the chicken pox antibodies you or I carry.

Brucellosis was transferred to the bison from cattle, and in not one single case has transmission been demonstrated vice versa. The last herd of genetically wild bison is being slaughtered at a frightening rate because the cattle industry does not want the bison eating the grass that they feel belongs to their cattle.

And this land to which they lay their claim — to the point where they slaughter a wildlife legacy — is public land that belongs to all Americans. How do you think these 174 wild bison that the article you published referred to like being caged up and confined for an indefinite period?

They are caged in a manner in which life-threatening injuries result; they are electrically prodded and their heads are clamped in metal vices while they are injected with a vaccine that has not been proven effective. And if they are lucky, they are given ear tags like cattle and released. What does that level of violation feel like?

The article the Kaimin published was absolutely ignorant, without feeling, lacking emotion and a disgrace to anyone who follows this issue. The students of the University of Montana’s Environmental

Action Community will be traveling to the Buffalo Field Campaign and spending our spring break to defend these last wild, noble and wise creatures from this outrageous slaughter that jeopardizes the freedom of wildlife everywhere.

David Mildrexer
graduate student, forestry



Dogs perfectly happy outside

I enjoy the Kaimin. It’s both entertaining and informative (there is no weather like Kaimin Weather).

So, out of my love and respect for this literary institution, I am compelled to respond to Chris Rodkey’s piece on dogs last Friday. Taking your dog on campus does not mean that one is out there to hit on other people, nor does it mean one is an irresponsible caretaker. In fact, many dogs would rather wait outside during classes, to play in between, than stay at home. It is very possible that it is the best balance for both dog and caretaker. My border collie and I spend the ten minutes between each of my classes pretty much ignoring everyone else as we play with the Frisbee, because that is what he wants to do.

One should not be too quick to judge what is right for other people or their dogs.

On a side note, my biggest hope is that when writers are considering using gross exaggerations for newspaper articles, they really, honestly think it through.

Rob Lindner
sophomore wildlife biology


Spring is a blessing to UM men

Spring, thank God for spring. The second season of the UM school year where our beautiful women show up again. I would like to know where these ladies are coming from. It makes every heterosexual male student wonder what is exactly happening here. Perhaps there is an unwritten agreement, (or perhaps a written agreement in valley girl language that only these women can understand) between the professors and these women stating a certain criteria regarding skirt length and shirt size that allows class to be missed from November to March. Can’t you just imagine these professors: You beautiful ladies just come on back when it is nice and warm. We will just sit here and watch these testosterone-pumping males walk aimlessly across campus in sub-zero temperatures, suffering from Seasonal Affective Disorder (aka, SAD), with serotonin levels well below the mark of healthiness thanks to the lack of UV rays that the beautiful Missoula inversion layer takes care of for us poor schmucks not gorgeous enough to enter the ranks of “class missing beauty.” Perhaps this is a little far-fetched and there is a better explanation.

Since my first year I have heard of these secret tunnels that lead around campus from class to class to the mythical monkey cage, to the Iron Horse and Depot deck, and so on. Perhaps these tunnels have been converted to winter transportation layers for beautiful women. These tunnels, lined above with tanning bed lights and from end to end with latte/espresso shops producing jittery, bronzed beauties when they finally surface from the depths of the UM campus. Maybe there is a secret door somewhere and this is where all those lost dogs of Missoula end up. These women need sustenance, by god.

Maybe I am wrong on both explanations, but until I start seeing these women year round you will be hard r pressed to convince me otherwise. (Uncle Luke, your thoughts?)

Jake Olson
junior, forestry recreation management



MONTANA KAIMIN

Our 106th Year

The Montana Kaimin, in its 106th year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

Send letters to the editor to letters@kaimin.org or drop them off in Journalism 106

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Weather or not

High: 59
Low: 39



Chance of Showers

More rain is in store, so be careful. Those bricks are really slippery. Especially on your bike. Today's extended spring break forecast location: **Wheat, Montana.**

Highs: Warm
Lows: Cool

Man, I hate being home for spring break. I wish I had gotten that job after winter break. I mean, damn! I'm gonna have to help out on the farm and deal with my little sister. And my buds are all gonna be in Vegas. Here I am, stuck watching old "Blind Date" reruns and eating lasagna all night. At least my mom's happy.

Kaimin Weather - "Flat as far as the eye can see."

Accuracy Watch

The Montana Kaimin is committed to accuracy in its reports. If you think the Kaimin has committed an error of fact, please call 243-2394 or e-mail editor@kaimin.org and let us know. If we find a factual error was made, we will correct it on this page.

Wrong major

Travis Obermire's major was incorrectly listed. He is a Health and Human Performance major with an emphasis in exercise science. There are also no majors titled "pre-physical therapy." The information was incorrectly supplied to the Kaimin.

Calendar of Events

All This Week

See The Play Before The Play Sees You
PAR/TV Masquer Theatre — 7:30 p.m. through March 27
Play - "Uncle Vanya." Just the title brings back pleasant memories of playing "find the dollar" with my own uncle. Oh, uncle Robert, you always hid it in the same place! Tickets are \$11/general and \$10/students.

Mashed Potato, Alligator, Twist, Etc.
PAR/TV Open Space room — March 23-25 and 27: 7:30 p.m.
— March 26: 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.
— March 27: 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.
Dance - Spring Dance Showcase. There are — count em' — five nights of 1000 dances: imagine that. *I said imagine that!!* Tickets are \$5.

Todaaaaaaaay, March 25

J.T.T! *Sigh*
UC Theater — 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Film - Peace and Justice Film Series: "Noam Chomsky - Distorted Morality: America's War on Terror?" See a film featuring Noam Chomsky who in a non-scientific poll was rated by UM girls as "a real cutie pie, but no Jonathan Taylor Thomas."

Reading Is Hip
Liquid Planet — 8 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Reading - Wild Mercy Community Reading Series of Nature and Environmental Writing: Annick Smith and Katharine Hyzy. Learn about environmental writing that holds it down. Be cool: stay in school.

Recite This
Music Recital Hall — 7:30 p.m.
Student recital - Emily Burr, soprano, who's siren song has sent many-a-ship towards the dangerous rocks and into the briny deep.*
*one would assume if she used her talent for the forces of evil.

Nader Meetingzorz
Jeannette Rankin Hall 204 — 5:00 p.m.
Meeting - Nader meeting. A discussion on getting Ralph Nader on the ballot for the upcoming presidential elections. Rejected way to get Nader on the ballot #231: Crayon.

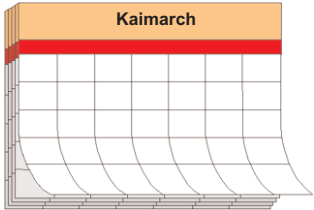
Friday, March 26

Tuba Toothpaste
Music Recital Hall — 7:30 p.m.
Student recital - Karl Ortman on the tuba — an instrument known for its use as both a maker of music and a lethal, blunt weapon which can smite even the deadliest foe.

Food Zoo Go Bye-Bye
Food Zoo — 6:30
Hours - Food Zoo closes at 6:30 p.m. for spring break. Our sincerest sympathy goes out to those who are going to starve to death without the Food Zoo. Sucks to be you.

Please send events for the calendar to editor@kaimin.org.

The Montana Kaimin does not guarantee publications of events submitted. Nor does it guarantee the calendar will be clever at all.



The World Affairs Council of Montana presents:
DISPATCH FROM AFGHANISTAN
An Inside View

With

Col. Joel Cusker

Former Senior Military Trainer to the Afghanistan National Army
Member of the Montana National Guard
Montana Native and UM Grad

A Community Discussion with Col. Cusker

*****Thursday, March 25 at 7 PM*****
Urey Underground Lecture Hall
University Campus
Call 728-3328 for details.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA INFORMATION ADVISORY

SEXUAL ASSAULTS

In an effort to provide timely and accurate information to our students, staff, and faculty members the following information is provided:
In recent weeks, the University has received information concerning multiple alleged sexual assaults occurring at large parties being held off, but near, the campus primarily for University students. No specific suspect information is available at this time and these allegations have not been substantiated but are being carefully investigated.

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Go to parties with friends and agree to leave together
- Plan a safe ride home; designate a sober driver
- Remember: when alcohol and drugs are involved, a person may become too intoxicated to consent to sexual activity and be more vulnerable to assault
- Watch your drink being prepared or prepare it yourself and don't leave it unattended
- Use the buddy system - keep track of your friends
- Don't be afraid to make a scene if someone is stopping you from leaving
- Intervene if you see someone at risk
- Trust your instincts - speak up or leave the party if you feel uncomfortable or unsafe

To report a crime to the Office of Public Safety or local law enforcement, call 911 or 243-4000. To file a Student Conduct Code complaint, contact the Dean of Students at 243-6413.

For more information on reducing the risk of rape and assault and for support services, contact The Student Assault Resource Center (SARC) at 243-6559 or visit the SARC website: <http://www.umt.edu/chc/sars/sarsmain.htm>

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HEY SPRING BREAKERS!
Where did you take your Griz Card?

Have your photo taken in front of someplace, or with someone "famous" while holding your Griz Card. Turn the photo into the Griz Card Center by April 28th and you're entered to win money on your Griz Card debit account. First prize is \$50. Contest is open to UM students, staff and faculty.



For more info, call 243-MyID/6943.



room with a view

Story by: Katie Klingsporn

Photos by: Nick Wolcott

“This is the best view I’ve ever had playing cribbage,” Nick said as he pegged his points on the cribbage board.

Everyone agreed. From inside the tiny lookout cabin, we could see the craggy, white-topped Bitterroots to the east. A notch or two to the north were the mellower shoulders of the Rattlesnakes, and then a snowy-white razor ridge of the Missions appeared. The rest of the 360-degree view — which we had to step outside to see — was composed of a graceful and ragged horizon of blue and white peaks.

The sun dropped slowly in the west and its light became dim and blue. We relished the last minutes of daylight, gazing at the mountains that had us surrounded, before night fell and covered the landscape in darkness.

Our skis waited patiently outside, and our shoulders ached with the memory of the packs we carried in.

At the West Fork Butte Lookout cabin, the phrase “room with a view” takes on a whole new dimension.

Although I’m not a big skinny skier, the thought of a bird’s-eye view of western Montana from a cabin was enough to persuade me. My mind craved a vacation from the hectic flood of schoolwork and the haze that had been hanging over the valley.

The plan was to ski six to seven miles in to the West Fork Butte Lookout cabin near Lolo Pass on Saturday and stay overnight. So I retrieved my dusty cross-country skis from the basement and packed up.

I picked up Nick, Aubrie, Royce and their gear and we headed toward the pass. On the drive, I envisioned a small white trail slicing through wintry thickets, pines laden with snow and maybe some gurgling mountain streams.

When we arrived at the trailhead, we found an old logging road that wasn’t exactly wintry. In fact, it wasn’t even snowy. It was packed with ice. The hills had undressed in the previous weeks and were mostly bare, save a few north-facing aspects and shady areas to which dirty snow furtively clung.

Fine with me, I thought, and strapped my skis on to my backpack. Nick skinned, Royce carried his alpine skis and Aubrie and I hiked. The road inclined gently, and the sun showed its face through thin, hazy clouds. We barely noted distance as we

hiked through ice, mud, slush and snow, talking ceaselessly. For the first couple miles the landscape was mottled—clear-cuts spotted the hills and mountains in naked, stark swaths. It looked like someone had taken an enormous electric shaver to the hills and buzzed indiscriminately.

After a couple more miles the road dipped into dense woods and began to wind lazily around shady hillsides. The elevation gain and shade provided us with deeper, softer snow.

“It’s a good time to get on those skis,” Nick said. Aubrie agreed.

I resisted, but when Aubrie stopped to put on her boots, I gave in.

We stepped into our skis and began gliding along. Although I skied clumsily at first, I quickly found my rhythm shortly and began to slide easily up the road.

As we ascended, the road became steeper and more hidden by thick forest. Green bear-grass bunches and squat bushes sprouted on the edge of the road, where the snow had begun to recede into the woods. The snow was old, hard and scattered with brown forest litter. We came across a number of tracks as ours carved uneven ribbons in the snow: snowmobiles, snowshoes, large hooves, dog pads and tiny, delicate rodent prints.

My shoulders began to whine as we continued uphill. We had been traveling for a couple hours at this point and had blithely passed by many forks in the road. The

thought that we had missed a turn and would end up stranded in the middle of Forest Service land began to tug at the back of my mind. Struggling to light a fire with wet wood and setting up camp on the cold, snowy ground wasn’t appealing. I was set on a warm, welcoming cabin.

It had to be close.

I began chugging away, certain the cabin would appear on my left at any minute. The climb continued, and the whine in my shoulders turned into an ache. I started breathing heavily but kept plugging through the trees.

Suddenly, I saw white letters on brown. A sign.

“West Fork Butte Lookout, 1/2 mile,” it read.

Greed for the top and the view it promised welled up inside me and I went into overdrive. As I rushed up the dwindling road, glimpses of pine-blanketed hills and faraway mountains danced through breaks in the trees.

The trees opened. Perched upon a haphazard pile of jagged rock slabs was a quaint, white structure with large windows. Thick cords secured it to the earth.

I hollered some expression of delight, which echoed loudly. I stepped out of my skis hastily, threw down my pack and clambered to the top, where our cabin awaited.

The cabin was still locked, so I sat on a rock and absorbed the view, happy to just wait. A slight breeze played with my hair, and the fir trees, the hills and the distant

mountains were utterly silent.

The others soon arrived and joined in on the made-it-to-the-top revelry. Nick opened the cabin, which was a hospitable, one-room affair equipped with a wood stove, propane range and oven, dishes, board games and four bunk beds.

Not bad for \$30 a night, especially considering the deluxe view.

The cabin, we read on a small sign by the door, had been assembled from a kit and packed in by mules from the old Lolo Ranger Station in 1934.

After hanging out and gazing at the landscape that stretched out in every direction, we changed into dry clothes and made ourselves at home. Royce prepared a pasta dinner as we played cribbage.

After dinner and a game of Mind Trap, we carefully stepped outside to check out the stars. A faint glow to the east reminded us that Missoula was tucked in a valley nearby. I turned the other way and

focused on a blacker sky and brighter stars.

When it got too chilly we retired to our creaky bunks.

We awoke the next day as sunshine spilled through the east-facing windows. It was already warm as we stepped out and climbed up to the sunny “back deck,” which was a bench of flat rocks that jutted out over a steep, white snowfield. The Bitterroots stood proudly under the sun, looking stately as the sun glanced off them.

We soaked up the sun for a while and then scampered down to toss a Frisbee in the snowfield that was our backyard. After that, we skied the hill a couple times. Aubrie and I, unable to hold edges with our plastic, lightweight skis, took turns tumbling as we attempted to negotiate a downhill angle. Royce dropped a cliff gracefully. After playing outside a little longer, we decided it was time to go home.

It was hard, though, to leave a place where only endless sky and silence filled the day. We resisted. A slight sense of dread crept into me as I imagined Aubrie and I flying uncontrollably down the slippery mountain road. Then I felt uneasy apprehension as I thought of the pile of homework and errands that awaited. I quickly shoved it all out of my mind.

As I stuffed my belongings into my pack, I forged a plan that would allow me to depart more easily.

I settled on making this place my new weekend getaway.



The West Fork Butte Lookout sits high on a perch with 360 degree views of Montana and Idaho’s burly mountain ranges. It is owned by the National Forest Service and is available for \$30 a night. Call the Missoula Ranger District for reservations.



Royce McIntosh goes shirtless under the hot spring sun below the cabin Sunday morning. While the terrain isn’t excellent for alpine skiing, there was plenty of fun to be had.



A long exposure captures the starry night and a trail of headlamps headed for the outhouse.



Nick Wolcott/Montana Kaimin
Oh yeah baby, it's spring break—time for students' annual exodus to warmer climates and loss of inhibitions. Matt Baldwin strikes a pose in Canyonlands National Park, spring break 2002.

Students depart for break

Madeleine Creevy
For the Kaimin

The sun is shining, the air smells different, the snow has almost completely melted. Finally — it's spring! After a long, cold, gray winter, most University of Montana students are itching to leave campus and take a break from academia for a week. National parks are a popular hot spot for many students looking to escape the indoor cold-weather blues. UM sophomore Jack Dennis plans to camp in Glacier National Park for the entire break. "We are so lucky to be able to escape into the wilderness instead of going on some cheesy trip to Cancun or something," Dennis said. Sophomore Amy O'Connell and her friends are heading to Glacier National Park to cross-country ski. "I have been counting down the days until I can pack up my car and get out of here," said O'Connell. "There's not much snow left, and I want to take advantage of it," she added. Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, the national parks closest to Missoula, are both open to the public. According to the Glacier National Park hot line, Going to the Sun Road — the road that climbs through the heart of the park — is currently open 10 miles in to Lake McDonald Lodge on the west side and 1.5 miles in from the east entrance. Students can call (406) 888-7800 for the latest updates. "This road is one of our most popular attractions,"

said Ken Gibley, a Glacier Park employee. Going to the Sun Road provides tourists with stunning views and the chance to get to high elevations without having to work all that hard, Gibley said. All other park roads are still closed. The park is open to skiers, hikers, snowshoers and backpackers. Yellowstone National Park — another spring-break hot spot — is 100 percent road accessible, according to the Yellowstone Web site. "It is a great time to visit Yellowstone because you are going to avoid the summertime crowds," said George Hayes, a Yellowstone Park ranger. "Yellowstone is amazing because of all the opportunity to see wildlife," said sophomore Julies Hines. "Being able to get that close to a buffalo is remarkable," she said. Hines, along with most spring-breakers, is hoping the weather cooperates with her outdoor plans. Many students are opting to head south for spring break. Moab, Arches and Zion national parks in southern Utah are great locations to take in beautiful scenery, and the weather is always outstanding, UM senior Mark Hodges said. Hodges has spent his last three spring breaks at each of the parks. "Every time spring rolls around I look forward to the solitude and heat of the desert," Hodges said. Above all, Hodges warns all spring-breakers to remember one thing: sunblock. "Coming from Montana we are all pale from a long winter and if you forget to lube up you are screwed," he said.

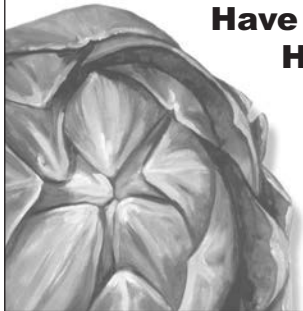
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UM women realizing hockey goal with club team

Peter Coyle
Montana Kaimin

It was a beautiful day, but not for hockey. As the Grizzly football team ran drills on Tuesday, the University of Montana women’s hockey team wrapped up its season on a puddle-covered Glacier Ice Rink.

The team played in decidedly un-hockey-like conditions at the fairgrounds as spectators watched in T-shirts as a warm spring breeze blew through the rink.

The barn the ladies played in used to house cows. Their hooves have chipped the concrete underfoot, which sometimes causes uneven ice.

The resulting melt-off made for some interesting playing. The puck skipped off the water like a stone, leaving a wake in its path. The goalies took a break from the action to splash the puddles away from their nets. And the already slippery surface sent players spinning like tops when they fell onto the thin sheen covering the ice.

The team was playing against a group of UM alumni, which had players averaging 40 and older.

Handicapped from the start by a lack of players, the UM club team had to borrow some warm bodies from the alumni.

“We didn’t have our normal goalie,” said Erika Swanger, co-chair of the hockey team. “That hurt us.”

UM’s lack of a goalie and the alumni’s few-more years of experience were enough to help the alumni glide to a 6-1 win.

That didn’t matter to three forestry students wearing white T-shirts hand-decorated with oversized hearts cheering from the stands. Each shirt professed its owner’s love for some of the players on the team.

A handy pack of cheap beer livened up the game and added extra high notes from the battered trumpet that one fan wore around his neck.

The three — Alex Williams, Ben Folgate and Rob Lee — are UM’s designated “puck sluts.”

None of them play hockey, but they have their own unique view of the game.

“Hockey has the brutality of rugby and the game plan of basketball,” Folgate said.

The ice may have made for slow play, but the team was making progress for women’s sports by just playing.

The team was started by UM law school graduates Erin Erikson and Jennie Kaleczyz in 2000 to provide an opportunity for women to slap around a puck that normally would be reserved for men.

Erikson first became interested in the

game after her Canadian husband introduced her to it five years ago.

Meanwhile, Kaleczyz played in high school and has since been addicted to the game.

“The first time I saw a game I knew I wanted to play,” Kaleczyz said. “Everybody laughed at me because I was a girl.”

“We both played and saw the need for a women’s team,” Erikson said.

She said the team was created to make more opportunities for women’s hockey with the hope that it would someday be recognized as one of UM’s intercollegiate sports.

“The speed, the pace of the game — everyone I know who tries it gets addicted,” she said.

That addiction has led at least to the formation of this team.

One of Kaleczyz’s favorite moments was when she stepped onto the ice with the team for the first time and realized that their dream of women’s hockey had come true.

Others have taken the initiative to help make their goals happen.

Erika Swanger deals with details such as travel and publicity. The sophomore in Spanish education stopped swimming and dancing to take up hockey in high school and has been playing for four years.

Like many club teams, the hockey team receives some money from ASUM. Swanger said the hockey team was able to help buy more equipment for players to rent with some of the funds from ASUM. This helps make the game open to more people because the equipment can run from \$500 for an average player to \$1,200 for goalie gear.

It’s a small price to pay for ice time.

Like many hockey players, there are few aspects of the game Swanger does not like. It simply goes beyond words.

“I don’t know how to explain it,” she said.



Mike Cohea/Montana Kaimin

Lauren Hansen (left) battles for the puck against a member of the alumni team as the UM team fell to the alumni on Tuesday 6-1. This concluded the regular season for UM.

The Kaimin

We keep our stick on the ice.

More home games to increase revenue

Josi Carlson
For the Kaimin

What’s one way of helping a more-than-\$900,000 athletics budget deficit? Home games at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Away games don’t generate as much cash for deficit

The University of Montana athletics department scheduled the Grizzly football team to play the University of Northern Colorado in Missoula on Sept. 25 in an effort to create more revenue for the athletics department.

Originally, UM was slated to play at Cal-Poly on Oct. 23 but canceled that game in order to schedule one at home. When former UM Athletic Director Wayne Hogan resigned on March 4, the search for a home game was one of the department’s top priorities.

Marie Porter, interim athletic director, started the networking process immediately after Hogan resigned.

She visited Web sites specifically designed for scheduling football games, made numerous calls and received tips from other athletics programs.

On March 22, UM announced the addition of UNC’s Bears to the 2004 schedule.

“For the situation we were in, Northern Colorado is an excellent draw,” Porter said.

The Bears posted a 9-2 record in 2003 and finished the season ranked No. 19 in coaches and media polls. They are returning one of the I-AA’s top receivers with senior Vincent Jackson and the defense’s leading tackler with junior defensive back Reed Doughty.

“Clearly they’re a very good team” Porter said. “It’s also a super-attractive team for our fans because it should be an excellent game.”

However, Grizzly head coach Bobby Hauck is one person who has shown concern with the draw.

Although Hauck mentioned in a Missoulian article that he would not prefer such a difficult non-conference schedule, Porter said she still feels it was the best decision for the school.

“Of course the head coach wants to be victorious,” Porter said. “I want to be victorious, too. But this late in the game, it was the best situation.”

Northern Colorado’s head coach O. Kay Dalton was excited for the match-up but also foresaw a tough battle.

“We are just excited to play some quality teams,” Dalton said. “We’re trying to rise up from the dust of the I-AA ranks and it’s a slow process.”

One thing Dalton wasn’t too concerned about was the money issues involved with the game or the budget woes facing UM.

“It’s funny — I just heard about it this morning,” Dalton said. “We just want to play some football.”

Despite the potential grudge match on the field, an additional home game should bring some much-needed revenue to the athletics department.

According to Chuck Maes, associate athletic director for Internal Operations of Intercollegiate Athletics, each home game potentially brings in \$350,000 before expenses.

For each home game, the University spends around \$32,500 for basic expenses, which include paying for security, officials, the Silvertip Skydivers’ appearance and custodial labor, among other things.

Initially, the athletics department projected spending about \$80,000 on the road game against Cal-Poly. It bought out the game against the Mustangs for \$50,000 and will be paying UNC \$60,000 to play in Missoula.

Maes projected that with all expenses — and the money saved by not traveling to California — the UNC game will provide UM with a profit of about \$290,000.

“Playing Colorado at home is not any easier of a game than playing Cal-Poly on the road,” Maes said. “But it’s a chance to bring in money and that is paramount right now.”

Nevlovich named player of the week

University of Montana tennis player, Stan Nevlovich, was named the Big Sky Conference’s Player of the Week for his wins in both singles and doubles during the Grizzlies’s duals with Nevada and Gonzaga over the weekend.

The 5-foot-7-inch junior from Johannesburg, South Africa, is now 2-0 at the singles mark after defeating Nevada’s Rudi Leuschner 6-2, 6-3 and Drew Ernst of Gonzaga 6-1, 6-3.

The Grizzlies defeated the Wolf Pack of Nevada 4-3 on Friday and the Bulldogs 6-1 on Saturday.

Nevlovich went undefeated in doubles play with partner Jan Steenekamp during the matches. The two defeated Jooste/Ericsson of Nevada 8-2 and Cooper/Ernst of Gonzaga 9-7.

UM faces rival Montana State this weekend beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday. On Sunday, the men’s team will face Lewis and Clark State, whom the Griz defeated 4-3 earlier this season.

-Kaimin Sports Staff

Montana's Robin Selvig named co-coach of the year

Jeff Windmueller
Kaimin Reporter

Despite what some call bad driving and sideline acrobatics — and a rumor that he puts his pants on backward — Robin Selvig has annually produced one of the best women's basketball teams in the Big Sky Conference.

This year the Lady Griz head coach led his team to a 27-5 season that ended with its 18th regular — season conference title and 15th NCAA appearance.

That's why the eight Big Sky coaches voted Selvig as the Big Sky women's basketball co-coach of the year, sharing the honor with Idaho State's Jon Newlee.

"I had a heck of a team," Selvig said. "That's how you get coach of the year."

Selvig's 2003-2004 Lady Griz ranked in the top 10 schools in the nation for scoring defense, holding opponents to an average of less than 55 points per game, and ranked second in the country with an average of just 12.3 turnovers per game. Meanwhile, Selvig reached his 600th career win after the last game of the regular season.

The team also had three all-conference selections: seniors Brooklynn Lorenzen and Julie Deming, and junior Hollie Tyler. Lorenzen was named conference MVP.

"It's one of those years you pinch yourself," Selvig said.

He said he was lucky to have some of the best players in the nation and that the honor wasn't for him but for the team and how well the players worked together.

"Both seniors had great years — they were very determined — but the whole team stepped up," he said.

Lorenzen said that after hearing about the honor she was excited for her coach but didn't understand why he had to share the award.

"He was outright the best coach in the Big Sky," she said.

However, Newlee did turn Idaho State around from a 6-20 2002-2003 season to 20-9 record overall this year, and his team placed second in the Big Sky after losing to the Lady Griz in the conference championship. Idaho State also ranked in the nation's top 15 for offensive scoring, averaging nearly 76 points per game.

Still, Lorenzen has her reasons; she's been playing for Selvig for four years and knows how much of an effect he has had on the team.

"He is a good teacher and knows basketball inside and out," Lorenzen said. "He is definitely a deciding factor in whether or not I would come here."

Lorenzen will graduate this semester but has plans to return as a graduate assistant next season to help out with the team.

In the last four years, she has come to know Selvig very well and defends what some call his somewhat irate behavior on the sidelines.

During a game against rival Montana State, Lorenzen saw Selvig leap about 10 feet into the air because he was obviously upset — at what, she doesn't really remember.

Selvig also has a knack for kicking a leg out whenever the opposition has a clear three-point shot and for leaning way back as he watches the ball approach the net.

Still, Lorenzen said the team understands

his competitive nature, and rarely does anyone have a problem. If so, Selvig is quick to apologize.

"We know he means no harm," she said. "He's a sweet gentleman off the court and we know he loves us."

Selvig's terrible drive on the court is possibly only matched off-court by his terrible driving, she said.



Lady Griz Head Coach Robin Selvig talks to his players during the MSU game last month.

Lisa Hornstein/Montana Kaimin

"If you ever have to catch a ride with him, you know you're going to be late," Lorenzen said.

He is constantly getting lost, and on one occasion he showed up to the airport with his pants on backward — possibly because of the rush, she said.

Although he is a friend to his team off the court, Selvig is a good coach because of his intensity and ambition.

"(His behavior) looks a lot worse than it actually is," Lorenzen said. "(The game) takes him over and consumes him."

UM women finish 6th in Florida golf tournament

Sophomore Jasi Acharya led the University of Montana women's golf team with a tied-for-eighth-place finish at the Hatter Spring Fling in Deland, Fla. The tournament, which was sponsored by Stetson University, began over the weekend and ended Tuesday.

Acharya finished with a two-day score of 162 — helping her team reach sixth place with a 679 finish. She shot a 78 on Tuesday and was one of only eight golfers to break 80 on the par-72 course at the Victoria Hills Golf Club.

Griz senior Liz Meschke finished 18th with a 168, Anna Maria Jaramillo placed in 23rd with a score of 170, freshman Krista Swanson finished with a 179 and senior Brianne Woods completed tournament play with 186.

Florida Atlantic won the tournament with a team score of 647, Jacksonville University followed with 653 and host Stetson University finished third, shooting 654.

The UM team will have a week off before returning to the road. The Griz will head to Portland, Ore., to participate in the University of Portland Lady Pilot Spring Invitational, held April 4-6 at the Stone Creek Golf Club.

-Kaimin Sports Staff

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Cars

Continued from Page 1

Bob Duringer, vice president for Administration and Fiance, said in an earlier interview that administrators are discussing whether the program should reduce the number of vehicles.

“It’s appropriate to have some number of cars,” he said. “But if it’s not directly related to the program, then it should be looked at.” The vehicles range from a 1995 Pontiac Bonneville to a 2004 Ford Explorer. Some have up to 100,000 miles on them, but most are newer models. The dealerships receive the same benefits regardless of the quality of the car.

Newton’s family owns only one car, so the courtesy car is necessary for the amount of traveling he does for his job, he said. He said he has been in five different cities in the past two weeks.

The security of driving a car from a dealership on trips is also an advantage of the courtesy car program, Newton said. But while having a car is nice, it may not be absolutely necessary. UM’s fleet of cars is larger than most, he said.

The athletics department at Portland State University has six cars it received in trade for four football season tickets and two basketball season tickets, said Tom Burman, PSU’s athletic director. Dealerships who donated the cars are also mentioned in game programs.

Sacramento State University’s athletics department has two vehicles it traded for tickets, but it is working to increase that number, said Terry Wanless, the athletic director. The vehicles are benefits for the head football coach and the recruiting officer.

Cars for the department are not a frill and would not contribute to a deficit, Wanless said.

“That’s a product of success and a product of the generosity of the community,” he said. “Courtesy cars save you money. They’re not really excessive.”

At UM, employees pay for their own insurance, but gas is covered for business-related expenses. Employees must keep a log of their miles, and 75 percent of those miles must result from business-related driving. They are taxed for personal use.

Local dealerships, like University Motors and M & M Auto Sales, contribute most of the cars, but dealerships in Kalispell and Fort Benton trade for tickets as well.

The advertising dealerships receive at games is appealing to those who want to contribute to the program in some way, Newton said.

“I think there’s a glitzyness or sexiness to being tied into coaches and athletics,” he said.

Hal Woods, the general sales manager at Bitterroot Motors, estimates a car is worth a \$4,800 donation to athletics because of the wear and tear on vehicles. The brand new cars he provides the department are worth about \$32,000, he said.

“We try to support (athletics),” Woods said. “We think it’s good business.”

Interim athletic director Marie Porter said the cars are necessary for recruiting purposes and fund raising.

“Does it save us money?” she asked. “Well, if we would have to back out that expense and increase the salary to compensate for the vehicles — well, then yes.”

Fees

Continued from Page 1

tary fees.

“We have bigger fish to fry,” Roehm said. “We have larger concerns, like the quality of the educational process.”

But representatives from MontPIRG and others in support of expanding voluntary fees are hoping the regents don’t step in to negate the vote of the ASUM Senate.

“Will the regents continue to allow students a choice with the way student groups are funded or will they listen to the shrill voice of a few ideologues who don’t support the work of what MontPIRG does?” asked David Ponder, MontPIRG director.

Ponder said that the UM campus community has supported MontPIRG’s ability to collect a fee since MontPIRG first began

collecting a tuition-based fee 20 years ago. Under the current policy, every two years UM students must vote on whether they support MontPIRG’s ability to collect its fee. A majority of at least 25 percent of the student body must vote in support of the fee for it to continue.

“The student body on every occasion has endorsed, by at least an 80-percent margin, the ability of MontPIRG to collect a (voluntary fee),” Ponder said.

Ponder fears that because other campuses in the Montana University System don’t support voluntary fees, MontPIRG will lose its ability to collect funds through the administration at UM.

“Does Miles City get to decide what UM does?” Ponder questioned.

Also on tap for the Board of Regents meeting are presentations on UM’s athletics department deficit.

Administrators to delay fee proposal

Alisha Wyman
Montana Kaimin

University of Montana administrators will ask for delayed consideration of a proposal to increase the student athletics fee at the Board of Regents meeting today.

“There are alternatives to review and we need to do that,” said UM President George Dennison. “We’ll just have to have the discussions, you know. I don’t know how those discussions

will come out, but I think they are important to have.”

The original proposal was to increase the fee from \$30 to \$60 over two years, but administrators will wait until at least the May regents meeting to bring it up again, Dennison said.

Until then, administrators will look into other options students have proposed, like requiring students to pay for football tickets.

ASUM President Aaron Flint said he thinks administrators knew the fee increase proposal

would not pass. Both Chairman of the Board of Regents John Mercer and Regent Christian Hur have previously stated they would not support a fee increase until the nearly \$1 million deficit of the department has been taken care of.

“I think (withdrawing the proposal) is a positive thing,” Flint said. “But I think it’s also seeing the writing on the wall ... clearly there’s a lot of discussion that needs to go on.”

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22 yr old female looking for roommate to share home just west of town. Furnished, fenced yard, all pets welcome. Avail. now. Call Marie @ 728-2463

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Ladies! Want to play Fastpitch Softball? Call 544-2575
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Fraternities-Sororities-Student Groups- 4 hours for your group's time PLUS our free (yes, free) fundraising solutions EQUALS \$1,000-\$2,000 in earnings for your group. Call TODAY for a \$450 bonus when you schedule your non-sales fundraiser with CampusFundraiser. Contact CampusFundraiser, (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

COMPUTERS

Have a Mac? Have Problems? Call Peet at 370-4566. Reduced rates for students and contract work. Also willing to trade.

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